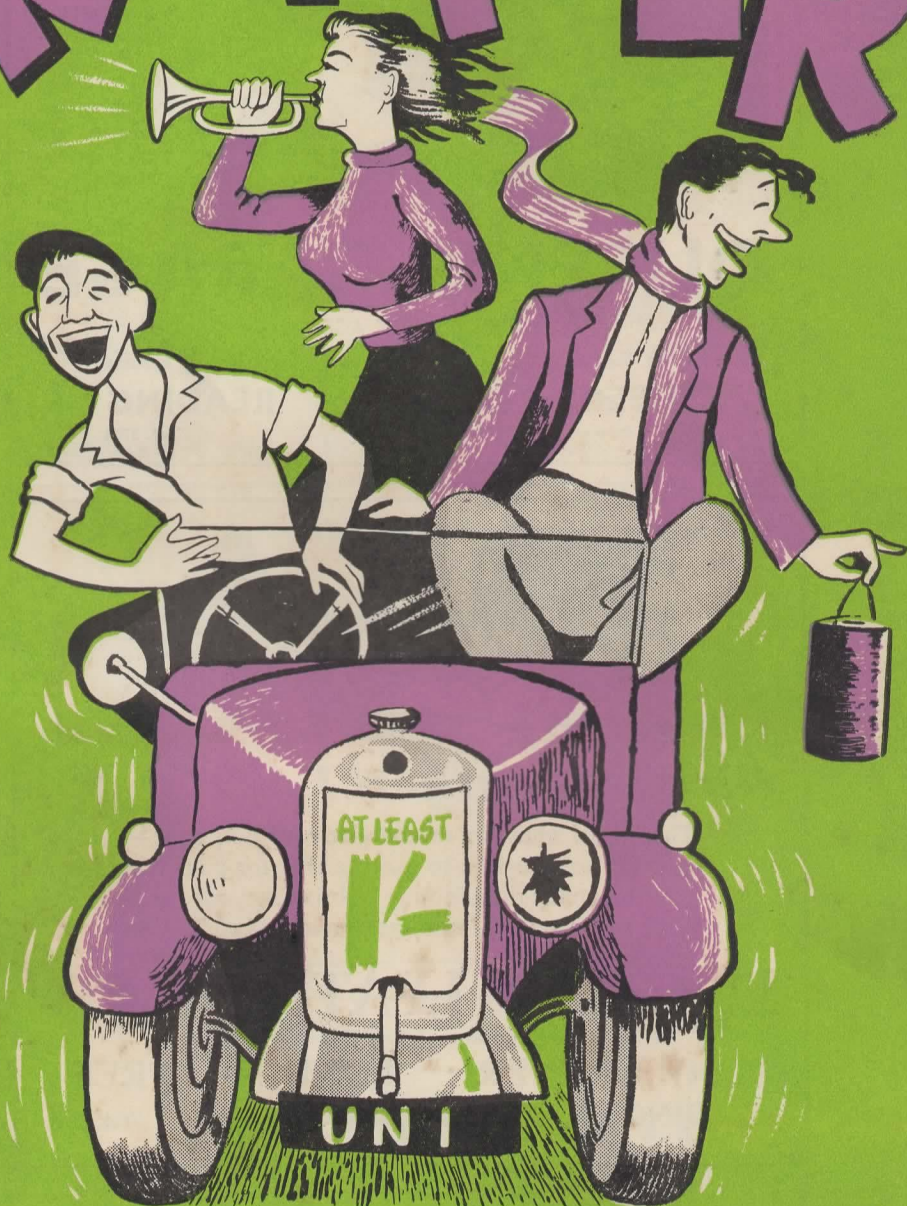
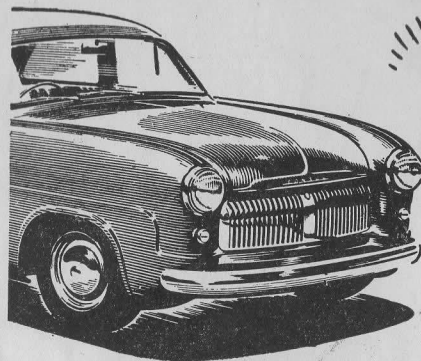


RATTLER



'IN AID OF CHILDREN'S CHARITIES'



**You'll
Save a
'Packet'...**

if you let us attend to all Auto requirements. We have the skill and the experience to ensure that you get the best of everything that a wise car owner deserves

QUEEN'S GARAGE

MAIN JOWETT AGENTS

Morris, Standard, Triumph

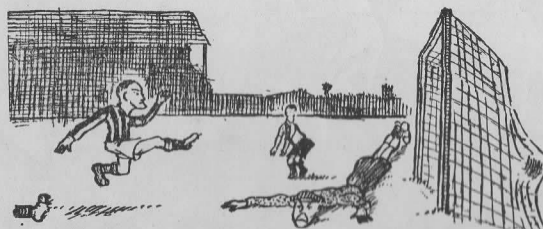
QUEENS ROAD

Managing Partner: H. G. B. Wagnell

Sales and Service

READING

Tel. 3704



Give it 'Leather'!

That is just what you should give your Footwear — and we are the folk to execute that for you. Get yourself on the right footing by bringing your Footwear repairs to us — and get a 'goal' of satisfaction

ENGLISH LEATHER CO

Proprietor: H. B. G. Wagnell

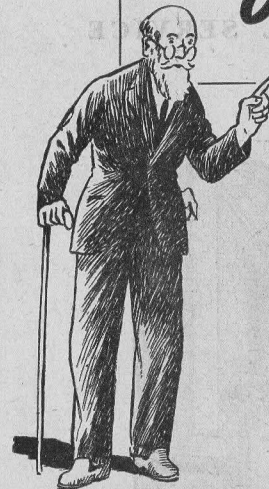
**ELCO CORNER · LONDON STREET
READING**

Tel. 3639

READING RATTLER

I

Over 75 years ago



"Yes, 'twas way back in 1875 I first dealt with Jacksons and they've done me and me family real well ever since."

Take a tip from a nonagenarian and do yourself a bit of good by always going to . . .

Jacksons

Jackson's Corner, Reading and Seven Branches

FOR COMPLETE INSTALLATIONS
OF AUTOMATIC

CENTRAL HEATING

(HOT WATER OR STEAM)

FIRED BY

ELECTRICITY

ANTHRACITE

COKE

GAS

OIL

Consult

H. C. GOODMAN LTD

Caversham Bridge Foundry, Reading

Phone Reading 2242 (2 lines)

136 YEARS OF MEDICAL SERVICE

In 1818 . . .



. . . from these premises in the Market Place, we supplied the people of Reading with their medical requirements.

Now, in 1954, our service extends from Reading to the South and East of England.

BRADLEY & BLISS

LIMITED

MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS

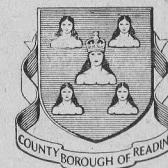
SURGICAL TECHNICIANS · WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS

LONDON STREET · READING

TEL. 4811 (4 LINES)

and at 107 West Hill

St. Leonards-on-Sea



TOWN HALL,
READING.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Once again it gives me much pleasure, as Mayor of Reading, to ask you to print a short foreword for inclusion in the RATTLER for 1954.

This great effort by the Students of Reading University, to raise funds for local charities, is very much appreciated by the people of Reading.

As a result of this effort in the past very substantial donations have been contributed and it is my earnest hope that this year it will prove to be equally successful and thus confirm that Reading University is a living and vital force in our midst.

Yours very truly,

Frank St. John.

Mayor.

The Editor,
The RATTLER.

Heelas

OF

READING

are proud to support
the University's effort
in such a good cause

A Branch of the John Lewis Partnership



Drop Off Your Troubles

at STOCKER & SHEPHERD — the Motor Cycle People! There's nothing like a BIKE for getting you around quickly and cheaply, and be sure of getting a really dependable model from our grand selection.

STOCKER & SHEPHERD

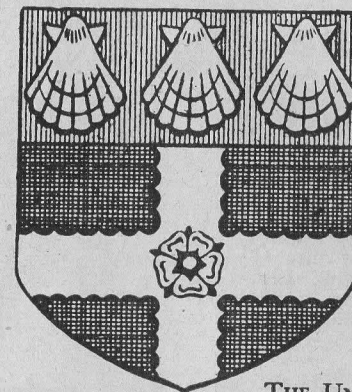
LIMITED

THE MOTOR CYCLE PEOPLE

Agents for all leading makes
of Motor Cycles and Sidecars

131 OXFORD ROAD & WAYLEN STREET
READING

Tel. 3983



THE UNIVERSITY,
READING.

The "Reading Rattler" has changed a good deal, in form and in contents, over the past few years. But its purpose remains the same, to entice shillings out of the pockets of those who buy it. And the purpose of that enticement is the same too, to swell the amount of money which will be available for Charities.

Year by year on this annual occasion the Students' Union puts a good deal of effort and energy into its Rag. Year by year the townspeople of Reading support the Rag with great and warmly-appreciated generosity. Charities, especially Children's Charities, benefit from this effort and this generosity; and it is for their sake that I again appeal to all concerned to support Rag Day this year as generously as they have done in the past.

J.F. Worsfold

Vice-Chancellor.

Strike the Right Note

in meeting the requirements for your Table by getting your MEAT, FISH, GAME and POULTRY from COLEBROOKS. For nearly 100 years — in fact since 1856 — they have been bringing satisfaction in so many good things to the good folk of Reading and district.

Colebrook & Co Ltd

PURVEYORS OF MEAT, FISH, POULTRY
GAME AND QUICK FROZEN FOODS

120 BROAD STREET · READING

Telephone 3451

Branches throughout the District



WILLIE'S
EARS



THE CANARY'S
SPATS

**WHAT WE
WILL WASH**



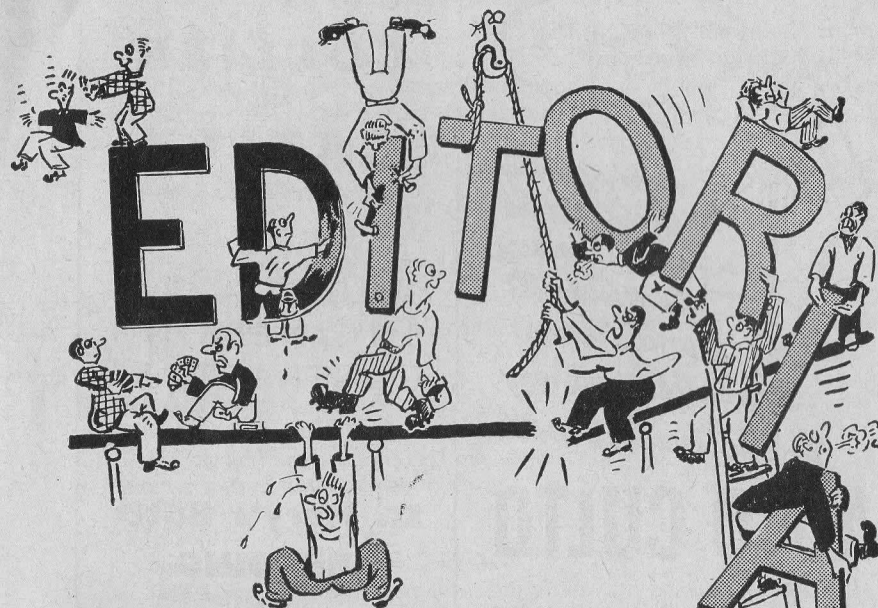
THE CATS
PYJAMAS UNMENSHONABLES

Your Most Treasured Possessions . . .

are perfectly safe in our experienced hands. Why not try our DRY CLEANING service — you'll be amazed at the speed and care with which we handle all your requirements.

Reading & Caversham Laundry Co. Ltd.

Tel. Reading 73231 (3 lines)

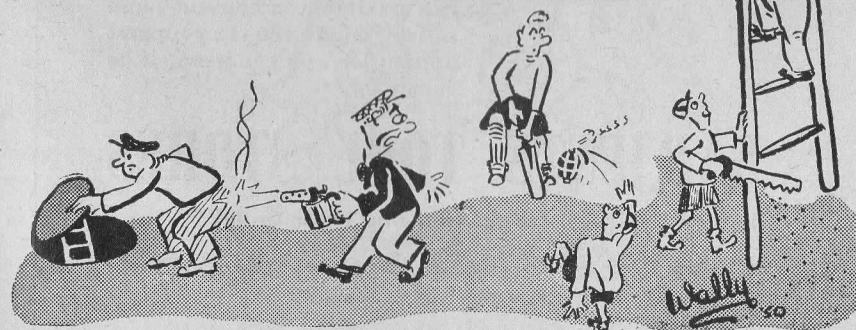


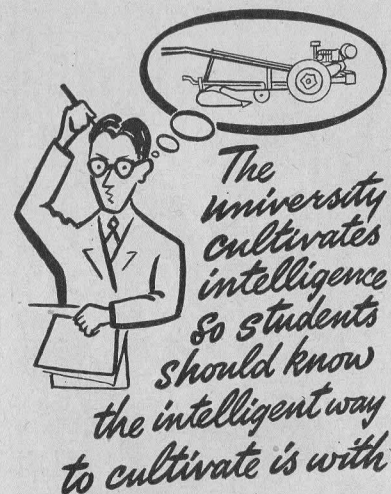
ONCE more we have published RATTLER to aid in collecting money during our Rag in aid of Children's Charities.

When you read this you will have paid one shilling or more towards our funds. We have tried in this magazine to give you value for your money.

If, however, in the pages that follow you do not find sufficient to justify that payment, then I ask you to take a look at any of the children cared for by the Charities to which the money will go — see one of them smile, and there you have something worth anyone's shilling, believe me.

Yours sincerely,
EDITOR.





AUTO CULTO

Full particulars from
ALLEN & SIMMONDS
 (Auto Culto) LTD., READING

COLLIER

AND

CATLEY

LIMITED



BUILDERS & CIVIL
 ENGINEERING
 CONTRACTORS



St. Mary's Butts
READING

Tel. 4231



Our Tools Give An Impression

at all times of real craftsmanship — and the impression is a lasting one! Whatever your purpose we have the TOOL to enable you to do the job with the maximum of efficiency and satisfaction. Even the youngest apprentice won't go wrong if he comes to . . .

SARJENTS TOOL STORES

"Where Craftsmen buy their tools"

43/44 WEST STREET

READING

Telephones: 2891 & 2710

WESTERN INTERLUDE

The scene is an old log cabin between Piccadilly and Tombstone City on a hot summer's afternoon in February. Hank is lounging in his fireside chair waiting for Ma to make the Christmas dinner.

Her lilting voice is heard from the kitchen.

"Hank ! Are you spittin' in that fireplace agin ?"

"No, Ma ; but I'm gettin' pretty close."

A minute drags slowly by.

"Ma."

"Yes, son."

"I shot one o' them goldarn McCoys just afore sun-up today."

"What d'ya do that for, son ?"

"He called me 'Big Head', Ma, so I shot him. Then his brothers came ridin' by."

"Did they see ya, son ?"

"No, Ma."

"How was that, son ?"

"A hid me and ma horse behind ma hat 'til they'd gone by."

Another minute drags slowly by.

"Ma."

"Yes, son ?"

"What's that a-buzzin' round ma face ?"

"That's a horse-fly, son. Like what buzzes around horses' earholes."

"D'ya reckon ma face looks like a horse's earhole, Ma ?"

"No, son ; but A reckon it'd fool a horse-fly."

More minutes drag slowly by.

(To be continued next year)



"She sat on the bridge at midnight,
 And tickled his face with her toes.
 But she was a tiny mosquito,
 And the bridge was the bridge of his nose."

You can't get on with everyone . . .

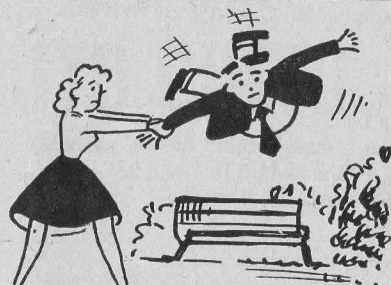
but you'll most certainly find that shopping for Meat at FROSTS is indeed a grand experience. 'Steak' your claim to satisfaction by changing over NOW to . . .

FROSTS THE BUTCHERS

WHERE 'MEATING'S' A PLEASURE

Branches at

Reading, Caversham, Whitley, Henley and Newbury



Hold It!

Capture those moments of joy or achievement by using a PHILIPS "PHOTOFLUX" FLASH BULB and you'll double the fun of photography. Easy to use, inexpensive and absolutely dependable. For further advice and information be sure to look us up at . . .

UNIVERSITY CAMERAS

16 KING STREET · READING

Telephone 2564



A Meal of Perfection . . .

is the kind that's always enjoyed at the ASTORIA. And now you can top it with a drink of wines or spirits—for we are fully licensed to satisfy even the most fastidious of palates! It's a date you'll enjoy with us at the . . .

ASTORIA RESTAURANT

For Crêpe Suzettes of superb quality

MORNING COFFEE · LUNCHEONS · DINNERS

CATERING FOR SOCIALS · WEDDINGS · PARTIES · ETC.

29 CROSS STREET, READING

Telephone 60632

YEARLY CENSUS

Our RATTLER reporters have been very busy in the last few weeks interviewing a fairly representative cross-section of the Reading public on questions of everyday interest. Their findings are published below.

- (a) When asked what they would most like to see on their breakfast table on a morning,
- 50% said Corn Flakes.
 - 40% „ Porridge.
 - 10% „ Marilyn Monroe.
- (b) Asked who they thought would be the next Prime Minister of France,
- 50% said M. Auriole.
 - 40% „ M. Chevalier.
 - 10% „ M. Monroe.
- (c) Asked what was their subject of study (students only),
- 50% said Don't know.
 - 40% „ Don't care.
 - 10% „ Marilyn Monroe.
- (d) Asked which they considered to be the finest National Dish,
- 50% said Irish Stew.
 - 40% „ Welsh Rarebit.
 - 10% „ Marilyn Monroe.

Which proves conclusively that 10% of the population of Reading are — well, never mind ; draw your own conclusions.

Two men were shipwrecked on a lonely part of the coast of Africa. They managed to salvage from the wreck a gun, some tools, and a few pieces of wood. One stayed on the beach and began to build a small hut, whilst the other went off into the jungle to hunt.

He was quite a way from camp when he came face to face with a large lion. He fired and missed, then the lion charged. He turned and fled back to the beach with the lion in hot pursuit. As he reached the beach, he saw that his friend had already built the hut. He made towards it, the lion hot on his heels.

He reached the door, stumbled and fell. At the same time the lion sprang, and leaping right over him, went flying through the door into the hut. Whereupon the chap picked himself up, quickly closed the door of the hut behind the lion and called to his friend inside : "Skin that one, Charlie ; I'll go back for another."

A lovely young girl named Anne Meiser
Declared that no man could surprise 'er.
But a fellow named Gibbons
Untied her blue ribbons,
And now she is older but wiser.



Great Expectations

are always realised when
you are getting all your
gardening requirements
from DUNLOP'S.

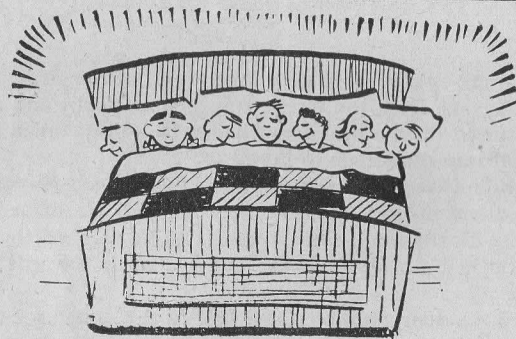
CORN, ARTIFICIAL
MANURES, FEEDING
STUFFS, ANIMAL AND
POULTRY FOODS, BULBS,
GARDEN SEEDS, TOOLS
AND SUNDRIES.

DUNLOP'S

The Premier Agricultural and Corn Merchants
Suppliers of Game Foods

OXFORD ROAD · READING

Telephone 4211-4



OUR SHEETS ARE SO ACCOMMODATING!

But don't get us wrong — our Sheets are the Metal kind and we
can form and shape it to your will. You'll find us very much alive
and never go to sleep on the job — as you'll see if you visit . . .

SHEET-METAL COMPONENTS (READING) LTD.

Aircraft and General Sheet Metalwork.

Fully approved by A.I.D. & A.R.B.

1-3 WELDALE STREET, READING 'Phone : 2079

THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ANONYMOUS

The glances over cocktails
That seemed to be so sweet
Don't seem quite so amorous
Over the Shredded Wheat.

'Tis a dog's delight to bark and bite
And little birds to sing,
And if you sit on a red hot brick
It's the sign of an early spring.

"Why are you staring at me so?" a man seated in a tube-train protested
to a fellow passenger swaying on a strap in front of him.

"I'm sorry," was the reply, "but you know if it weren't for the moustache
you'd be the spitten image of my wife."

"Moustache?" queried the one who was seated. "I have no moustache."

"No," agreed the other, "but my wife has."

"I'm looking for the spaghetti factory," a stranger in a shiny new Buick
told two characters lounging in front of the post-office.

"Never heard tell of no spaghetti factory around here," said one of them.
"I wouldn't have the faintest idea where it is."

After the stranger had driven off, the other native said: "Do you suppose
he could have meant the macaroni factory?"

"I'll bet you're right," said Zeb, "let's catch him."

They hollered at the top of their voices and the stranger waited for them
to overtake him.

"Could it have been the macaroni factory you were looking for?" asked
Zeb.

"I guess you're right," acknowledged the stranger; "where is the macaroni
factory?"

"Oh," said Zeb, "we don't know where that is either."

Mary had a little lamb,
The doctor was surprised.

The schoolteacher said to her most precocious seven-year-old pupil:
"Tommy, if I lay one egg on the table and two on the chair, how many
will I have altogether?"

"Personally," answered Tommy, "I don't think you can do it."



Tackle Your Sports Problems . . .

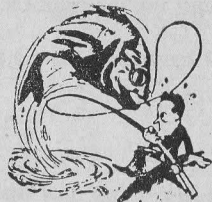
by getting your equipment from **BLAKES** ! Why go elsewhere and risk the 'penalty' of inferior goods ? Blakes will see you get fair play whatever the game you prefer.

BLAKES FOR ALL SPORTS

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

54 MINSTER STREET, READING

TELEPHONE 2205



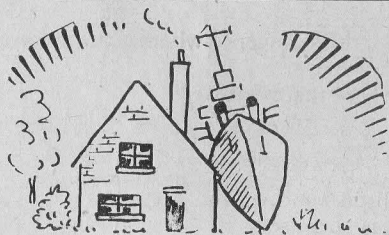
Why Catch it Yourself?

It's amazing the trouble some folk go to to get good food — but there's no need to go to this extreme ! The answer's so simple when all you have to do to get a really fine FISH meal is to call in any time at . . .

PICTON'S FISH RESTAURANT

FOR MEALS THAT HAVE EVERYTHING

ST. MARY'S BUTTS · READING



It's Just Amazing

what some people manage to collect in their backyard ! We don't suggest that you have reached the stage illustrated here, but whatever you may have amassed in **SCRAP METALS** be sure to give yourself a good deal by selling it to . . .

G. R. JACKSON LTD

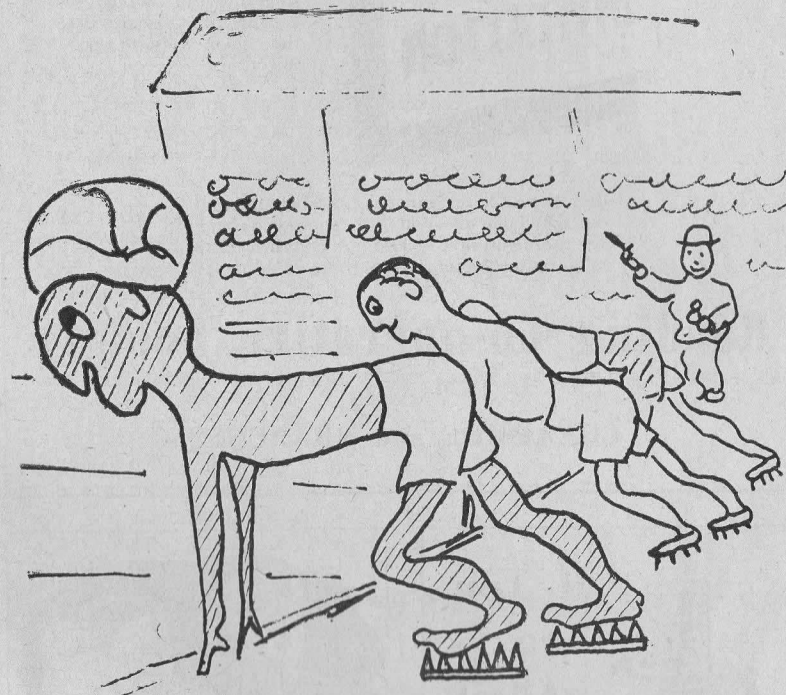
SCRAP METAL MERCHANTS

66 OXFORD ROAD : READING

Tel. 3026-7

Branches at
Aldershot, Aylesbury
Canterbury, Portsmouth
and Wednesbury

A bachelor skunk visited a newly-married pair of skunks and was surprised to find an extra bed in their room. When questioned, they explained, "We are expecting a little stinker".



IMPORTANT DAYS IN THE LIFE OF A STUDENT :

When he found that Professors were almost human after all, and liable to remember odd things occasionally.

When he found that evening dress was not just academic dress worn in bed.

When he realised that the Watch Committee were not just responsible for looking after the clocks and watches in Reading.

That female students were only just women, after all.

When he realised that contours were more than just lines on a map.

When he found out that the Vice-Chancellor did occasionally appear in Reading between making speeches up and down the country and broadcasting.

That a seat of learning was not just the rear view of a lecturer.



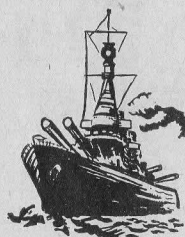
is extended to all those who wish to combine spending and saving — getting into the bargain the finest values and selections.

Join the CO-OP and reap the benefits that the DIVI can give you — the more you spend the more you save — and you couldn't think of a better system than that, could you?

Reading Co-operative Society

L I M I T E D

CHEAPSIDE and BRANCHES



If You
Are
"All at
Sea" ...

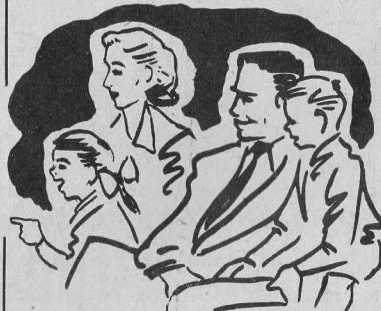
about materials for the Artist, the Draughtsman and the Student — make us your first port of call. We give an admirable service.

Sargents Embrook

L I M I T E D

119/121 London Street
READING

Tel. 4332



Why not sit back in comfort in your own home and watch the films? No travelling, no queueing. A Cine Projector is the last word in home entertainment.

C. E. & A. A. MAY

Films . Projectors . Repairs

114 LONDON STREET
READING

Tel. 2887

It was breakfast time in the vicarage and the elderly parson stood in the dining room with his back to the fire waiting for his sons to come down for breakfast. Three of his sons were in the ministry but the other was the family reprobate.

Enter first son :

"Good morning, my son."

"Good morning, father."

"Did you sleep well, my son ?"

"I did, father : I dreamt I was in heaven."

"And what was it like, my son ?"

"Just like home, father, just like here" ; and stood beside his father at the fire.

Enter second son :

"Good morning, my son."

"Good morning, father."

"Did you sleep well, my son ?"

"I did, father ; I dreamt I was in heaven."

"And what was it like, my son ?"

"Just like home, father, just like here" ; and stood beside the other two at the fire.

Enter third son :

"Good morning, my son."

"Good morning, father."

"Did you sleep well, my son ?"

"I did, father ; I dreamt I was in heaven."

"And what was it like, my son ?"

"Just like home, father, just like here" ; and stood beside the other three at the fire.

Enter fourth son :

"Good morning, my son."

"Good morning, father."

"Did you sleep well, my son ?"

"I did, father ; I dreamt I was in hell."

"And what was it like, my son ?"

"Just like home, father, just like here ; I couldn't see the fire for parsons."

"Guilty or not guilty ?" thundered the judge.

"Dunno," said the prisoner, "I ain't 'eard the evidence yet."

"He's an under-cover man — he stays in bed all day."

Psychiatrist : "Are you troubled by improper thoughts ?"

Patient : "No, I rather enjoy them."



What Every Bride Should Know!

Start the path of married bliss on the right footing by ordering your Wedding Cake from ARTHUR HARRIS.

And think of the wonderful dreams of the eligible young spinsters when they sleep with a slice under their pillows.

ARTHUR HARRIS

High Class Confectioners

16-18 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, READING

TELEPHONE 4393

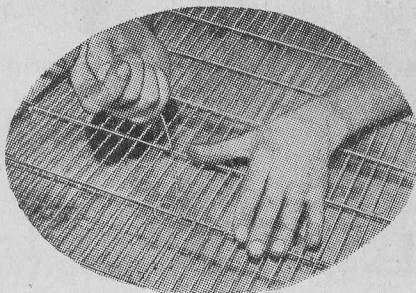
Established 1840

KING'S ROAD WIRE WORKS

(READING)

LTD

CRAFTSMEN



IN WIRE

131 KING'S ROAD, READING

Telephone: 3624

Makers of Arches, Flower Stands, Aviaries, Fencing Netting, Guards, Sieves, Screens and every description of Wire Work. Hexagon mesh wire netting in Brass, Copper, Aluminium and Monel metal.

Plain and Perforated Zinc, Wire and Zinc Blinds, Iron, Tinned Copper and Brass Wire and Gauze.

Oxy-Acetylene and
Electric Welding

YOUR PROBLEMS ANSWERED

Auntie Dote is always glad to hear from you and to help you with your problems. Here are the answers to some of her readers' letters:

DEAR AUNTIE DOTE,

The other morning, when my husband brought my cup of tea up to bed, I couldn't help noticing it was full of powdered glass. Several times I have woken up and found his hands around my throat, and on two occasions recently he has just missed hitting me with the wood-axe. Do you think he no longer cares?

"WORRIED", BATH ROAD, READING.

DEAR "WORRIED",

Stop worrying; your troubles will soon be over.

AUNTIE DOTE.

DEAR AUNTIE DOTE,

Whilst out walking with my girl friend the other morning I noticed that the grass was very wet and, placing my hand upon it, said, "Some dew!" She replied: "Yes, but we aren't going to". How can I explain that I was not making an improper suggestion?

"MISUNDERSTOOD", REDLANDS ROAD.

DEAR "MISUNDERSTOOD",

Don't cry; she may like it.

AUNTIE DOTE.

DEAR AUNTIE DOTE,

I am afraid I burnt my husband's dinner rather badly the other day. He says he is going to sell my gas oven and buy me a griller instead. What shall I do with one of those great big hairy things roaming around the kitchen?

"HARASSED HOUSEWIFE", CAVERSHAM.

DEAR HARASSED,

Shave it.

AUNTIE DOTE.

DEAR AUNTIE DOTE,

I luv a boy what is ayteen. He will not marry me 'cos I am only thirteen at present. Should I give him up?

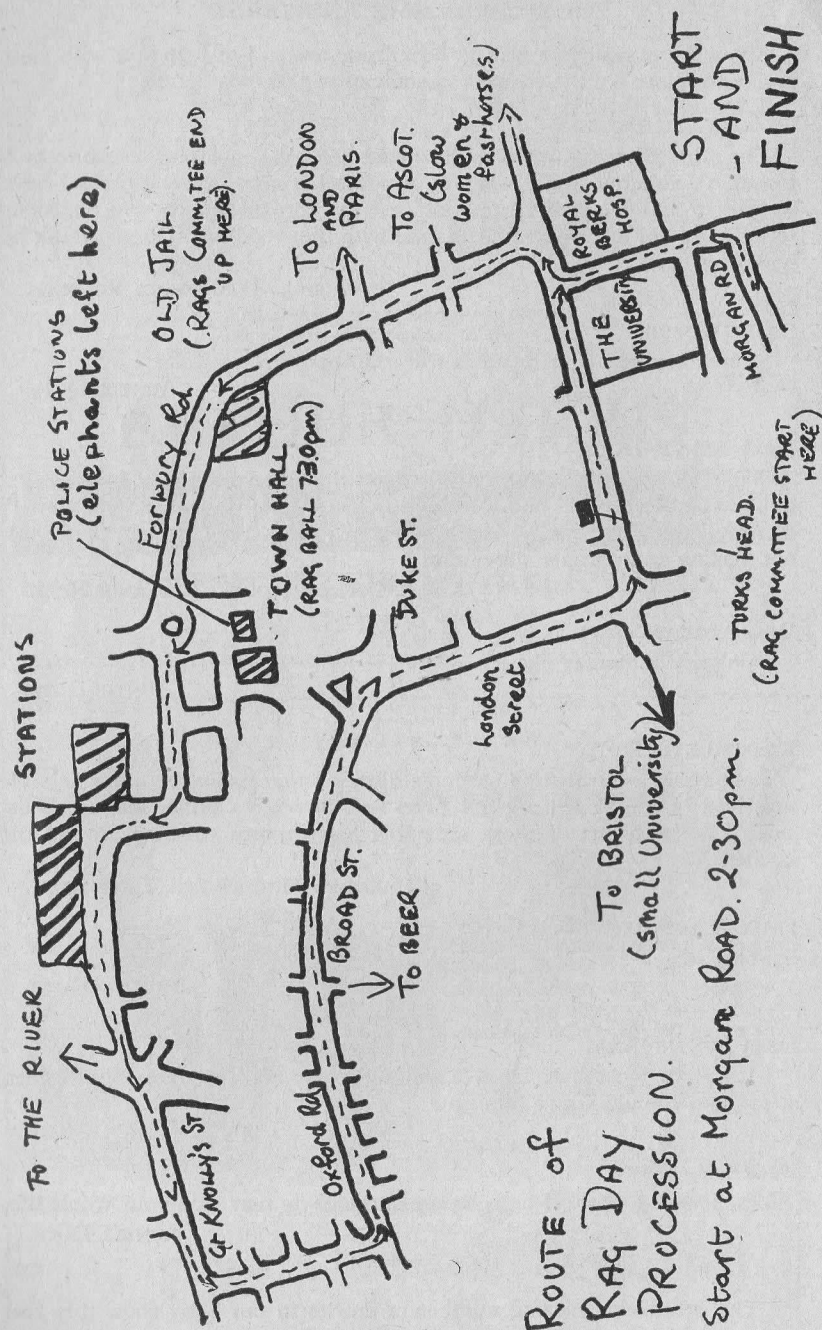
"LIZ", KENDRICK ROAD.

DEAR LIZ,

Yes, I would, dear. If he is so superstitious he may ruin your whole life.

AUNTIE DOTE.

"The positively amazing number of entries in our baby show this year is due to the sole efforts of our beloved Vicar."



ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 12.00 a.m. Midnight. RAG DAY arrives.
- 12.01 a.m. Sent back.
- 3.00 a.m. Policemen seen putting up posters.
- 3.01 a.m. Policemen arrested.
- 3.30 a.m. Students remove posters.
- 4.00 a.m. Rag Committee import a dozen elephants.
- 4.01 a.m. Councillors seen feeding elephants.
- 4.02 a.m. Elephants seen feeding Councillors.
- 8.00 a.m. City worker catches train.
- 8.01 a.m. Drops it.
- 10.00 a.m. Pubs open.
- 10.01 a.m. Streets empty.
- 10.02 a.m. RATTLER on sale.
- 10.03 a.m. Pubs empty.
- 10.04 a.m. Elephants in Market Place.
- 10.05 a.m. Editor of RATTLER deported.
- 10.06 a.m. Editor of RATTLER shot.
- 11.00 a.m. Thames diverted down Broad Street.
- 11.30 a.m. More elephants in Market Place.
- 12.30 p.m. Heelas's seen floating down Broad Street.
- 12.31 p.m. Chairman of Amusements sent to fetch it back.
- 1.15 p.m. Biscuit factory blown up.
- 1.16 p.m. Crumbs!
- 2.30 p.m. PROCESSION STARTS.
- 2.31 p.m. Chaos.
- 3.00 p.m. Elephants still in Market Place.
- 4.30 p.m. Procession ends.
- 5.00 p.m. Rag Dance beer supply stolen.
- 5.01 p.m. Dance cancelled.
- 6.00 p.m. Beer found in Market Place with elephants.
- 6.05 p.m. Dance on again.
- 7.00 p.m. Dancing to TEDDY FOSTER.
- 9.30 p.m. Draw for car takes place.
- 9.31 p.m. Chairman of Rags wins car.
- 11.43 p.m. Elephants gatecrash Dance.
- 11.44 p.m. More chaos.
- 11.45 p.m. Dance ends. Bar closes.
- 11.50 p.m. Elephants now pink. Return to Market Place.
- 3.00 a.m. Chairman of Amusements returns without it.

Did you hear about the girl who thought pale ale was beer in a bucket ?

A friend of ours in the States sent us this little contribution :

During the last boom, the members of the Tannenbraun Country Club decided to show the world how fashionable they had become by staging a fox hunt. Every member, it was agreed, would supply one hunting dog and the steward was despatched to locate a fox. On the morning of the great event, the self-conscious members gathered in resplendent red jackets and set off for the chase, while the President and the Vice-President posted themselves on the clubhouse veranda to follow the actions through binoculars. What nobody knew was that Member Finkowitz had unwittingly contributed a bitch. When the chase had been in progress about half an hour the Vice-President asked anxiously, "How is it going ?" The President put down his binoculars and said, "I can't understand it, the fox is running fifth."

A daring young maid from Dunkuque
Risked a rather decided rebuke
By receiving a prude
In the absolute nude,
But he gasped : "If you could only cuque."

A man walked into a public house one day and offered to show the landlord a trick in return for a pint of beer. The landlord, being a sporting man, accepted, drew the pint and waited.

The man took a mouse and a miniature piano from his pocket and placed them on the bar, where the mouse proceeded to play any tune requested on the tiny piano.

The landlord was most impressed by all this and offered more beer in return for another trick. So the man took from his pocket a canary, which perched itself on the bar and sang the songs as the mouse played them.

A spiv who had been looking on with great interest came up to the man and offered to buy the mouse and the canary. After some arguing the spiv bought the lot for fifty pounds.

After the spiv had gone the landlord turned to the man and said, "You're a fool to sell those clever little animals ; they could have earned you a fortune on the stage".

The man laughed and said, "I'm afraid I've fooled that chap completely, besides having taken all you people in as well".

"Oh, why's that ?" asked the landlord.

"Well," said the man, "you see the canary can't really sing. It's the mouse that's a ventriloquist."

"She may not be the only pebble on the beach, but she's the roundest."



"I'm just going to try her now !"

OVERHEARD IN A BUS

"He's only a boy at heart — it's only when you see what's in his mind that you realise how he's grown up."

When he was born, his father took him into the nearest pub and said to the barmaid, "There, put a head on this".

I HAD EIGHTEEN BOTTLES

I had eighteen bottles of whisky in my cellar and was told by my wife to empty the contents of each and every one down the sink or else . . .

I said I would, and proceeded with the unpleasant task. I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

I extracted the cork from the second bottle and did likewise with it with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

I then withdrew the cork from the third bottle and poured the whisky down the sink, which I drank.

I pulled the cork from the fourth bottle down the sink and poured the bottle down the glass, which I drank.

I pulled the bottle from the cork of the next and drank one sink out of it and threw the rest down the glass.

I pulled the sink out of the next glass and poured the cork down the bottle.

Then I corked the sink with the glass, bottled the drink and drank the pour. When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand, counted the glasses, corks, bottles and sinks with the other, which were twenty-nine, and as the house came by I counted them again, and finally had all the houses in one bottle, which I drank.

I'm not under the affluence of incohol, as some trimble peep I am.

I'm not half as thunk as you might drink. I fool so feelish I don't know who is me, and the drunker I stand here the longer I get.

Oh, me !

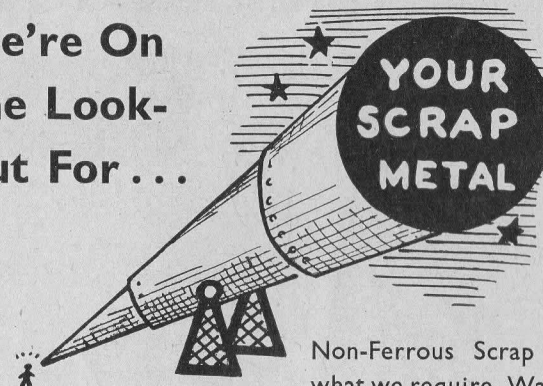
A young curate, fearing that one of the young girls in his parish was going astray, said to her on meeting her in the street one day, "You know, I prayed for you last night."

"Why didn't you phone me ?" she asked.

An Eskimo was going to marry the most glamorous girl in that part of Eskimo-land, so he built a lovely new igloo for them to live in after they were married. Just as he was putting the finishing touches to it she came along to inspect it. As she stepped inside it, it began to melt. Was she too hot for him ?

His wife was very fond of turning out his pockets whenever she had the chance, but never felt inclined to mend them should they get holes in them. So he put a needle and cotton in each of them — one good turn deserves another!

We're On
The Look-
Out For . . .



Non-Ferrous Scrap Metals are
what we require. Waste no time,
but, get in touch with us NOW !

BROOKSIDE METAL Co

L I M I T E D

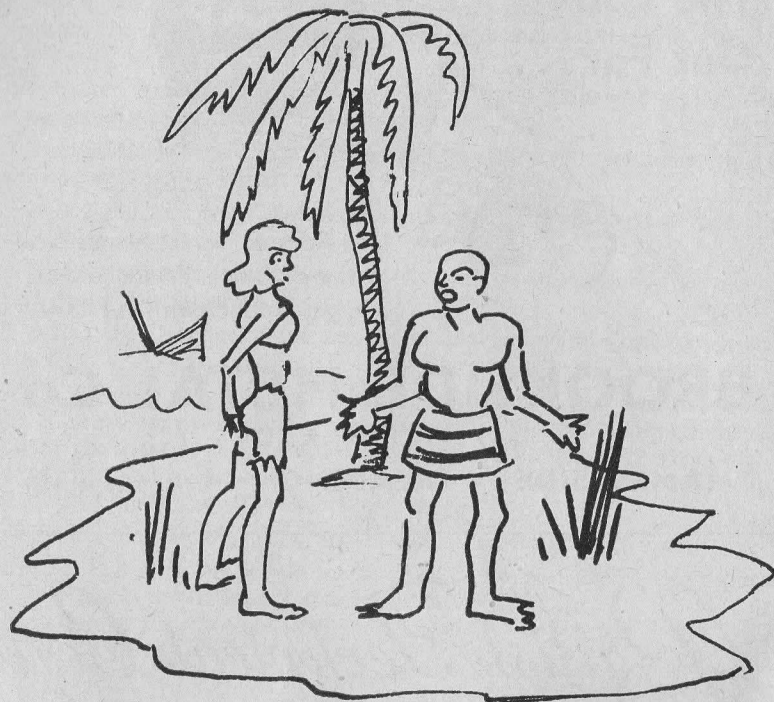
THAMES SIDE · READING · Tel. 2218 & 4489

British Technical Cork
Products Limited

CAVERSHAM MILL
MILL ROAD, CAVERSHAM
READING · BERKS

"I would rather be beautiful than brainy, because men can see better than they can think."

"AMERICAN GIRL STUDENT."



"Are you sure there isn't anyone else?"

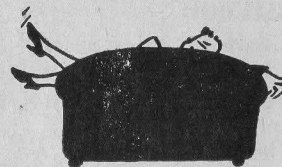
STAGE TALK

In an old-fashioned melodrama, at a provincial theatre, the villain committed suicide by throwing himself off a bridge into the river. To break his fall, a mattress would be placed beneath the bridge.

One night a stage hand forgot the mattress and the actor fell to the boards with a crash.

Up in the gallery a voice said: "Good Heavens, the river's frozen."

A repertory company was to play next at a small, little-known theatre. The Manager sent instructions to have ready Carpenter, Joiner, Electrician, Lighting Expert, Decor Manager, etc. Reply came back: "He will be there."



Good Work on Settees . . .

is something for which we are noted. Nevertheless we are the types who get to work better with the lights on. For Car Upholstery and the Renovation of Upholstered Furniture we offer a prompt and efficient service.

E. HILLIER & SON

COACH TRIMMERS & UPHOLSTERERS

1-3 WELDALE STREET · READING

TEL. 2079



The Finest Car Service

*Taxi-
Private Hire-
Self Drive-*



CO-RESPONDENTS' COURSE

UNKNOWN to many of our readers, we have for many years been conducting a correspondence course which terminates this year in our examination. The question paper is reproduced below. Results will be announced on February 30th.

PART B. APPLIED CAPROSTANNICS

Time allowed : 3 years, or less.

1. (a) Distinguish between intention and impression.
(b) Write a short essay on the relationship between these two aspects.
(c) What happens when they are not related ?
2. (a) Fall head over heels in love.
(b) Describe a parabola.
(c) Sink into a brown study.

Describe the sensations felt in each case.

Discuss how a comparative knowledge of the processes involved can help towards reorientation.

What precautions can be taken to ensure the maintenance of stable equilibrium?

Practical

Using the key below, identify as many as you can of the specimens provided :

Genus: *PUELLAE*

- | | |
|---|-----|
| Habit declinuous, recoils when touched..... | (1) |
| Habit progressive, withstands when touched..... | (2) |
| or advances..... | (3) |
| (1) { Fingers webbed, raiment sparse or absent.....(FAM. MARINALES).
{ Hair erect, mouth ovate or circular, nails primate(P. NONLUDAT). | |
| (2) { Body thick, eyes limpid, ears lobed.....(P. Densa).
{ Body slim, hair coarse and damp, ears absent... (P. ROBABLY AMOP). | |
| (3) { Width of mouth less than third of length.....(4)
{ Width of mouth a third of length or more.....(5) | |
| (4) { Head sessile, eyes stellate.....(P. TIMIDALIS).
{ Head pendunculate, eyes linear.....(P. CURIUS). | |
| (5) { Expression transparent or translucent, eyes blink
simultaneously.....(P. REVERENS).
Expression angelic, eyes blink alternately.....(P. VULGARIS). | |

If time allows:

Distinguish again between intention and impression.

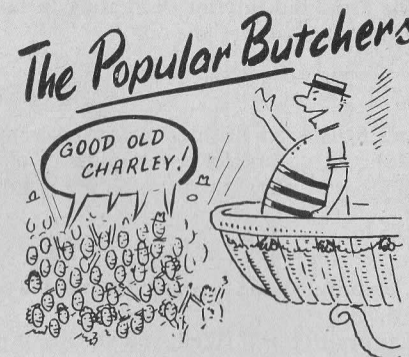
What influence does reaction when approached have on position in classification?

What approach conditions the reaction when influenced ?

What condition approaches influence when positioned ?

Students are requested not to leave their places while outside the room.

Through good years and lean ANSTEE'S have been noted for their good work in supplying Meat that is always so fresh and tender. Though we trust we are rapidly approaching the time when registrations are but a memory, we will maintain that high standard of service for which we are renowned.



W. E. ANSTEE & SONS LTD

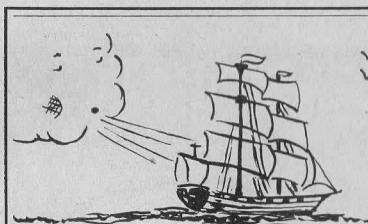
High-Class Family Butchers

Head Office :

138/139 FRIAR STREET, READING

Telephone 2229

Branches throughout the Districts



Times have changed

since this was the fastest and most comfortable mode of travel ! And it's time you changed your old car for a really good and reliable used model from us ! Change for the better by coming to

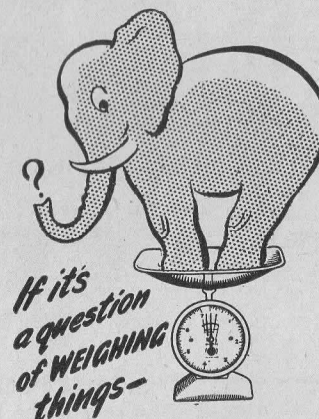
AUTOCHANGE

USED CAR SPECIALISTS

**172a, 174 FRIAR STREET
READING**

Telephone 2341

WAYMASTER

HOUSEHOLD AND
PERSONAL SCALES

Made by

PRECISION ENG. CO. (Reading) LTD

Obtainable from Stores and Ironmongers

The artist did interior decorating in his spare time, but that wasn't the only thing he had designs on.

An Englishman visiting America was staying with a friend who suggested they should go out for a few pints of ale was heard to remark: "I can't do any hard drinking with soft currency."

A beautiful young lady stepped out of a train at a country station absolutely naked.

Country Porter: "Well, you shouldn't play cards with strangers."

As a friend of mine says — marriage is for women only. Men should never, never have anything to do with it.

An Irishman, an Englishman and a Scotsman were having a quiet drink in a pub when three flies descended into their glasses. The Irishman blew his out, the Englishman fished his out and the Scotsman wrung his out.

As his part-time secretary said: "He's studying town and country planning, but he keeps on making by-passes at me."

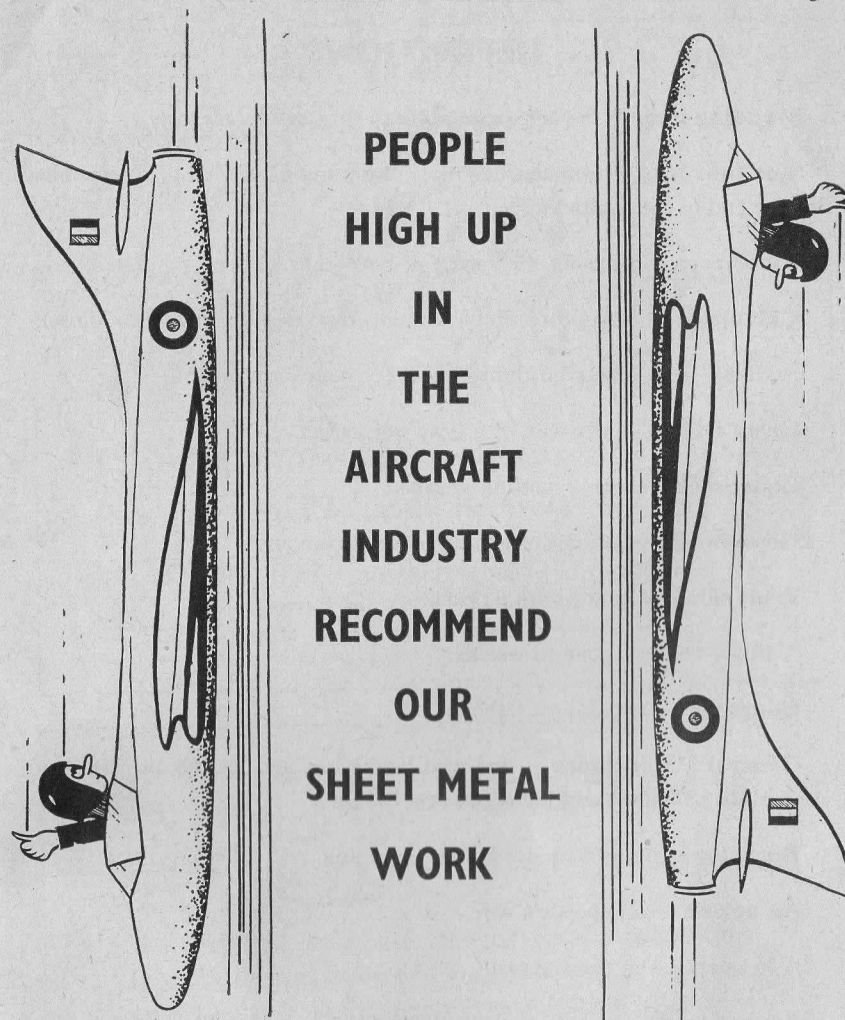
"Don't take any notice of me, I've been on the beer for a week."



"She was a miller's daughter,
A stream ran by the mill.
There were otters in the water,
But she was 'otter still."

Every big fish began life on a small scale.

**PEOPLE
HIGH UP
IN
THE
AIRCRAFT
INDUSTRY
RECOMMEND
OUR
SHEET METAL
WORK**



**EVERETT & CO.
LIMITED**

Workers in Sheet Metal for the Aircraft Industry



ALSO GENERAL SHEET METAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

Sheet Metal Works, Wantage Rd., Reading

Telephone: 4034-5-6



DEFINITIONS

Wedding ring — the connecting link to the chain of slavery.

The first kiss — for men, it's the beginning of the end; for women, it's the end of the beginning.

Vice-versa — Burning the candle at both ends.

Chivalry — a man protecting a woman from every man except himself.

A flirt — a woman who thinks it's every man for herself.

Grass widow — the wife of a dead vegetarian.

Courting disaster — getting engaged.

Gossip — a woman with a strong sense of rumour.

Fruit salad — a date with a peach.

A hug — energy gone to waist.

Courting — sofa and no father.

General Practitioner — one who learns less and less about more and more until he knows nothing about everything.

Bachelor — a guy who never Mrs. anything.

An epistle — an apostle's wife.

A la carte — on the waggon.

An optimist — a man who says "My glass is half full".

A pessimist — a man who says "My glass is half empty already".

"There was a young man of Kinlochery,
Who kissed a modern girl in a rockery,
He said, 'I give it up,
With all this make-up,
It isn't a kiss, it's a mockery'."

People who appreciate nice
things always shop at

*Wellsteeds
of Reading*

FASHIONS · ACCESSORIES · FURNISHINGS

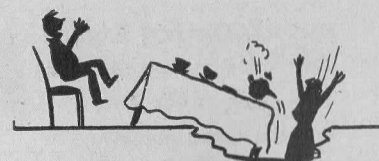


A Pleasant Retreat

The restful friendly atmosphere of Wellsteeds' Restaurant makes it the ideal spot to meet your friends for Coffee, Lunch and Tea.

WELLSTEEDS LTD · BROAD STREET · READING

TELEPHONE 4452



This Wouldn't
Have Happened

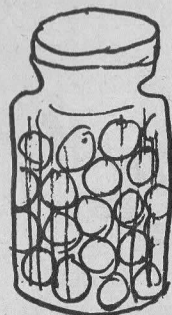
had they had the house built on a solid foundation.
Profit by their mistakes and ensure the best in materials
by getting your requirements from HAROLD P. BARNETT.
There's something solid in all he supplies.

HAROLD P. BARNETT

SAND, BALLAST & GRAVEL MERCHANT
CONCRETE BLOCKS A SPECIALITY

**BURGHFIELD BRIDGE
READING**

Telephone 60677



"Pickled Onions"



"Pickled Cabbage"



"Just Pickled"

A keen golfer visited a strange club one afternoon and approached the Pro.

"Any chance of a foursome?" he asked.

"Well, sir, if you hurry you will catch three parsons on the first tee, who will be only too pleased to play with you."

After the match, the keen golfer sought out the Pro. "Look here, my man, I thought you said those three gentlemen were parsons."

"Why, sir?" replied the Pro.

"Well, they spent most of the round swearing profusely."

"Come and look in the visitors' book, sir," and he led the golfer into the clubhouse and showed him the three signatures — Peter Brown, Colin Peters, Bill Shanks — "Metropolitan Vickers".

Hickory, Dickory, Dock,
Two mice ran up the clock,
The clock struck one,
But the other got away.

An Englishman, an Irishman, and a Scotsman entered a pub and ordered a pint each. By a strange coincidence a fly landed in each of the tankards.

The Englishman poked his out.
The Irishman blew his out.
The Scotsman wrung his out.

A husband is what is left of a sweetheart after the nerve has been killed.



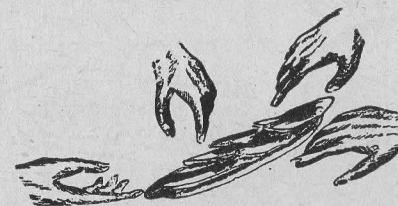
Lessons From The Past!

She'll treasure you more if you take care of your appearance. LANGSTON & SONS can give you the benefits of almost 80 years of experience in providing the finest styles for Gentlemen — and their Sons — styles that are outstanding.

LANGSTON & SONS LTD

The Men's Outfitters of Reading

CORK STREET CORNER · WEST STREET CORNER · 537 OXFORD ROAD
Telephone 4018 READING Established 1875



All Hands Reach

out for perfection in Baking when the LOAF has been bought from HARRY MEABY LTD.

But BREAD is not all they bake to perfection — their Confectionery certainly 'takes the cake' at all times.

HARRY MEABY LTD

Bakers and Confectioners

QUEEN'S RD. MACHINE BAKERY, 102/4 QUEEN'S RD.
Telephone 4458 READING Established 1840



A Good Thing on a Horse

Member of the N.T.P.S. and the N.S.L.
Credit Accounts from £2 and upwards
opened on approved references

FRED SMITH (SMILER)

TURF ACCOUNTANT

44 CROWN STREET · READING

Phone 2408 (all lines)

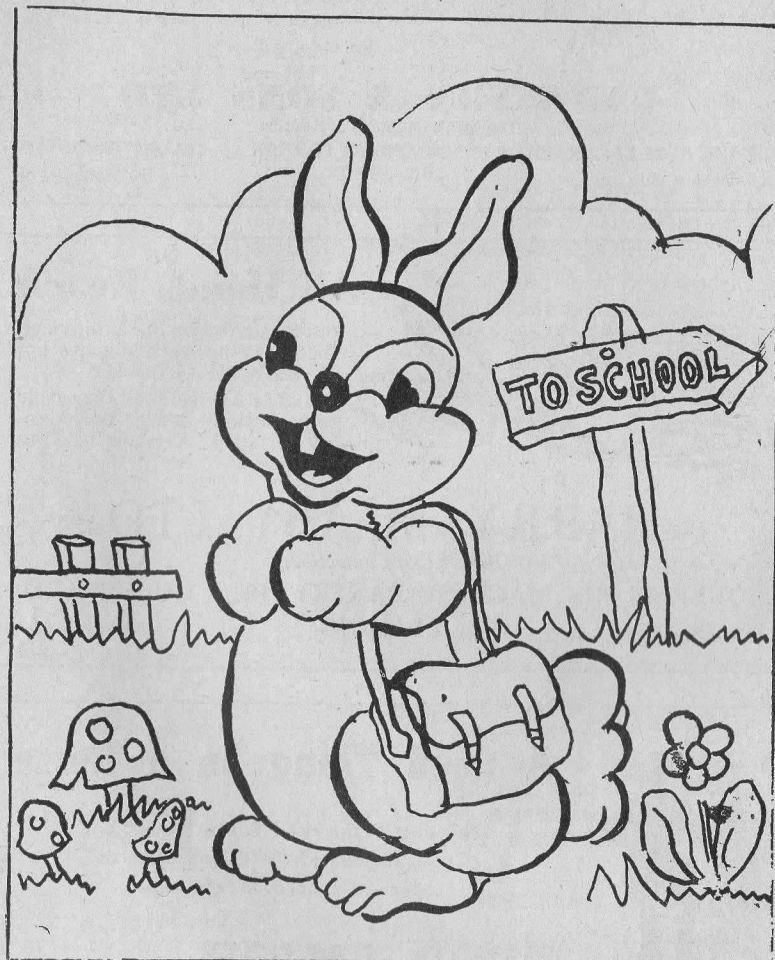
Grams 'Smiler' Reading

"RATTLER" CHILDREN'S PAINTING COMPETITION

This is open to two age groups: (i) under 8 YEARS. (ii) 8-14 YEARS.

Colour the picture in either paint or crayon and send it, with the entry form below, to Uncle Brian, RATTLER, The University, Reading.

THREE PRIZES of suitable children's books will be awarded in EACH age group. Age and neatness will be taken into consideration. All entries must reach the editor not later than March 1st, 1954.



ENTRY FORM

FULL NAME AGE.....years

ADDRESS

.....

A Few Coppers

can make all the difference to your appearance

It's an investment to spend with us in DRY CLEANING your Personal and Household effects at all times.

HOBBS
(READING) LTD

Launderers Dry Cleaners

GOLDSMID ROAD
READING
Tel. 2894

TRY "RENOVATIONS"
for upholstering and re-covering that chair or settee.

TRY "RENOVATIONS"
for remaking and cleaning that flock or spring mattress.

ONE DAY SERVICE

TRY "RENOVATIONS"
for eiderdown re-covering and loose covers.

TRY "RENOVATIONS"
for furniture, woodwork and cabinet repairs.

TRY "RENOVATIONS"
for french polishing and recaneing.

TRY "RENOVATIONS"
for all baby's pram repairs.

QUICK & PERSONAL SERVICE

"RENOVATIONS"
31 CHARLES STREET
Phone 60753



Here's a

"Rattling"

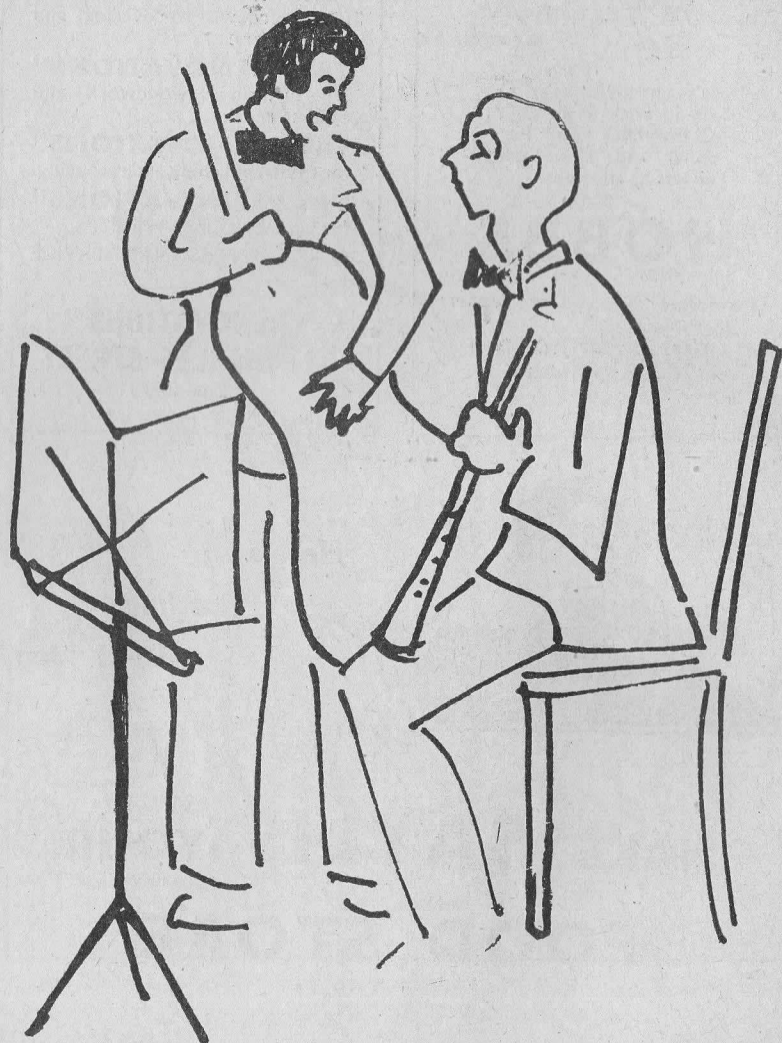
Good Idea!

MAKE **BAYLIS** YOUR
FOOD STORE

BAYLIS—THE GROCERS—LTD., BROAD STREET CORNER, READING
Branches at Caversham, Newbury and Abingdon

As one senator said to another, "Booked any good Reds lately?"

As one bird said to the other, "Bred any good rooks lately?"



"Have you seen the tricky piece in the next passage?"
 "No, she wasn't there when I came in!"



MAKE A NOTE . . .

of the firm who really are at the bottom of things in providing the ingredients for Sound Foundations. Our sand will enable you to build far more than "Castles in the Air."

HYDE-CRETE LTD

Ballast · Soft Sand · Hoggin · Flints · Sharp Sand · Shingle · Hard Core
 Head Office: Tel. RICHMOND 3681-2-3 · Works: READING 2868
 COLNBROOK 207 · FARNHAM 5530 · WALTON-on-THAMES 1901

Sound Foundations Need Our True-Grade Aggregates

There was an old monk in Siberia
 Whose existence grew steadily wearier.
 Till he broke from his cell
 With a hell of a yell
 And eloped with the Mother Superior.

As ye rip so shall ye sew.

One over the eight — the one before ten.

I didn't know he had a false tooth till it came out in conversation.

Wanted — a clean copy of *Forever Amber*.

He that marries for money earns it.

Some men are driven to drink — others go on foot.

Adjutant: "Sir, the men are revolting!"

Colonel: "Yes, aren't they?"

Notice in grocer's shop: "Will customers please refrain from sitting near the bacon slicer as we keep getting behind with our orders."



COMFORTABLE CONDITIONS ASSURED



267 & 576 OXFORD ROAD
 READING

Tel. 2520 and 3128

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE COMMITTEE would like to express their sincere thanks to:

Messrs. McMillan Graham & Co. Ltd., Manchester, for their patience and invaluable assistance.

Messrs. C. Nicholls & Co. Ltd., Reading, for printing this magazine, and for their advice.

All the Advertisers who, by their support, have made RATTLER possible.

All other firms, organisations, and individuals who have helped in any way whatsoever.

All contributors to RATTLER.

The police, for their co-operation throughout the Rag.

And to you, for your support.

RAGS COMMITTEE, 1954

Chairman: IAN STEWART.

Hon. Secretary: JILL PARISH. *Hon. Treasurer:* BILL GRIFFIN.

Editor: BRIAN WOODHEAD.

Raffle Organiser: LYN RULE. *Publicity Rep.:* SONIA BURGESS.

Dance Organiser: MIKE EVANS. *Ex-officio:* JOAN TROTT.

Assistant Editor: JOHNNY WILLIAMS.

assisted by

JILL PLUMMER BETTY MCGORIAN JOSE NEWBURY MARION BRYANT
BARRY HAWTHORNE GORDON FARLEY ALYN HORNE

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES:

Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

Police Widows and Orphans.

National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

British Red Cross Society.

Reading Association for Welfare to the Blind.

National Children's Homes.

Save the Children Fund.

Watlington House Management Committee.

Reading Dispensary Trust.

Church of England Children's Homes.

Infantile Paralysis Fellowship.

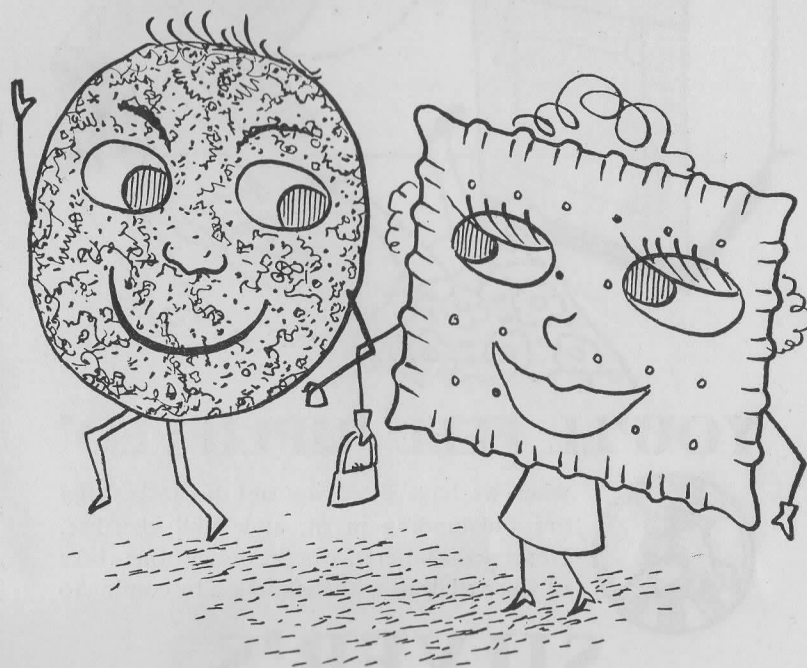
Reading and District Refugee Committee.

Reading and District Social Service.

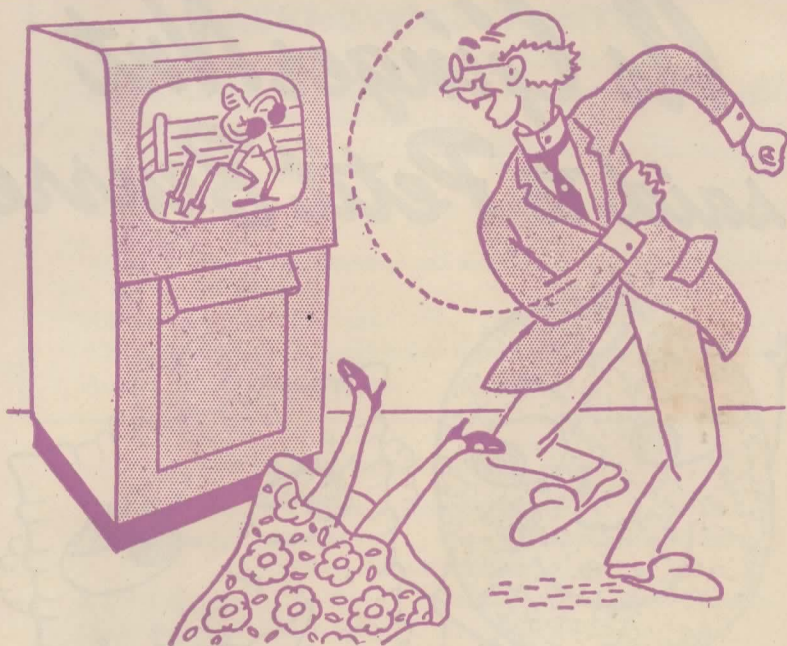
Mid-Southern Hospitals Welfare Committee.

Reading and District Hospitals Management Committee.

As Ginger Nut said to Petit Beurre



the first name we think of is Huntley & Palmers



YOU'LL FEEL 'UPLIFTED'



when we have fitted you out in Clothes that are outstanding in fit, style and elegance. Observe the difference in the notice others take of you and dress with distinction by coming to

SILVER'S

Civil and Sporting Tailors and Outfitters

OFFICIAL OUTFITTERS TO READING UNIVERSITY

17 KING STREET

Telephone 3300

5 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET 96 BROAD STREET

READING

HENLEY · FARNHAM · GOLDALMING · NEWBURY · OXFORD
WORCESTER · FAREHAM · MAIDENHEAD · SLOUGH

Please support the Advertisers